

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 922

By Kurita

A RESOLUTION to recognize Peggy Tackett on the occasion of her retirement as Director of the Montgomery County Health Department.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those committed state employees who in their years of work have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, Peggy Tackett is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for 30 years as a Public Health Administrator for the Tennessee Department of Health, and will be taking a much deserved retirement on April 30, 2004; and

WHEREAS, a native of Cheatham County, Tennessee, Peggy Reed Tackett was one of five children born to the Reverend and Mrs. Luther Reed; Reverend Reed was a minister in the Free Will Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Cheatham County High School, Peggy Tackett attended Free Will Baptist College in Nashville, where she later accepted employment with Guarantee Mortgage; she worked at Guarantee Mortgage for ten and a half years before becoming a state employee in 1974; and

WHEREAS, Peggy Tackett began her state career with the Department of Health working in the Cordell Hull Building in Nashville as an Administrative Support Manager; she was promoted to Director of Stewart and Montgomery County Health Departments in 1985; and

WHEREAS, during her eight and a half year tenure as director of both the Stewart and Montgomery County Health Departments, Mrs. Tackett was instrumental in securing new health facilities; and

WHEREAS, in Stewart County, she was the driving force in an effort that secured a new health department building, and in Montgomery County, she was the key in the establishment of a freestanding Women's Infants and Children (WIC) Clinic in St. Bethlehem in 1992; and

WHEREAS, the innovative WIC Clinic combined Fort Campbell's military clinic with the local area's civilian WIC population in a central location that served over 5,500 patients monthly; and

WHEREAS, in November 1993, Mrs. Tackett became the full-time Director of the Montgomery County Health Department and continued her commitment to providing high quality public health care through innovative solutions by opening a Community Nutrition Education Center at the WIC Clinic, the first of its kind in Tennessee and only the second established in the United States; and

WHEREAS, planning for the future, Peggy Tackett, this past November, oversaw the opening of the new, 33,000 square foot, state-of-the-art Montgomery County Health Department medical facility that will serve the community for many decades to come; and

WHEREAS, greatly respected and admired by her peers, Peggy Tackett is a lifetime member of the Tennessee Public Health Association and has received numerous honors from this distinguished organization including Clerical Section Past President's Award, Secretarial Support Service Appreciation Award, Public Health Worker of the Year and District Service Award; and

WHEREAS, a leader in her profession and her community, Peggy Tackett gives of her time and talents as Vice President of the Middle Tennessee Chapter of the Tennessee Public Health Association, member of the Executive Board of Child Advocacy Center and Chair of the Montgomery County Health Council; and

WHEREAS, a spiritual woman of great faith, Peggy Tackett has been an active member of Free Will Baptist Church for over 40 years and serves as Secretary/Treasurer of the Women's Auxiliary; and

WHEREAS, Peggy Tackett exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; she enjoys the loving companionship of her husband of 32 years, Paul Tackett, a retired member of the Tennessee Highway Patrol; and

WHEREAS, throughout her estimable career, Mrs. Tackett has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of her colleagues and employees alike and the appreciation of a grateful state; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we thank Peggy Tackett for her years of exemplary and dedicated service to the State of Tennessee and extend to her our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.